

Carolina Country[®]

May 1984

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EMCs Still Counting Toll
From "Storm of the Century"
See Pages 6-8



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We Asked Homeowners Where They Spent Too Much Money Each Year And They Told Us:

“Utility Bills and Taxes”

Q. *What energies are available for my home and family that are inexpensive, safe, clean, and plentiful?*

A. Wood and solar energy.

Q. *How does solar energy work to heat water?*

A. When sunlight strikes the solar collector it causes the core or absorber plate of the collector to heat. When the collector is higher in temperature than the storage water the system will automatically pump the lower temperature water through the higher temperature collector. This process allows for the water to pick up the heat thus becoming hot water.

Q. *What happens when the sun does not shine?*

A. Adequate solar systems should provide storage of hot water for cloudy days heated by solar from previous sunny days. Once the solar heated water is used, a back-up element provides hot water until the sun shines again.

Q. *How much hot water does the solar system need to provide for my family each day?*

A. The average family of two adults and two children will use approximately 60 gallons of hot water per day. Your solar system will provide approximately 100 gallons per sunny day.

Q. *What happens to the extra 40 gallons of solar heated water?*

A. It is available for the next day in case the sun does not shine.

Q. *Will a solar system increase the value of my home?*

A. Yes. Much the same as any other home improvement.

Q. *What about property taxes. If I increase the value of my home, will my property taxes increase?*

A. No, North Carolina will not increase your property tax when you improve your home with a solar investment.

Q. *What's the bottom line? How much does a solar domestic hot water system cost?*

A. An adequate solar domestic hot water package includes:

- 2 SolarMax 4' x 10' solar collectors
- 1 CWS-120 gallon solar storage tank
- 1 Solarmetrics solar controller
- 1 Grundfos 26-96 solar pump
- 1 100 foot package of 3/4 pipe and thermacell insulation

Solar Domestic Hot Water Package	\$ 1795.00
Less amount of federal tax credit	718.00
Less amount of state tax credits	448.75
Subtract total amount of tax credits	1166.75
Out of pocket cost for your system	\$ 628.25

Q. *Will I receive \$1166.75 from the government?*

A. Yes. Provided you pay taxes.

Q. *Will I actually receive this amount of money or will I deduct it on my taxes?*

A. You will receive the money provided you purchase a system of this type prior to The Solar Tax Credit Expiration Date of December 31, 1985.

Q. *What happens to my income tax that I pay in if I don't claim this credit by investing in a solar system for my home?*

A. The government will keep your money and spend it for some other function.

Q. *Does all this mean that as long as I am paying taxes a large portion of my solar system is already paid for or that I am presently paying taxes that could be used towards the purchase of my solar system?*

A. That is exactly right.

Q. *Can I heat my home as well as my hot water with solar energy?*

A. Yes. However, it becomes increasingly expensive to provide an adequate number of BTU's needed to heat an average size home. The payback period may be lengthy.

Q. *Could I install a solar system that would do a percentage of my home heating?*

A. Yes. It would be a good investment.

Q. *What type of heat would serve as a backup for the solar system?*

A. You can use the existing heat that is presently in your home or you could convert to another type.

Q. *What fuel would be good to use?*

A. Many people in North Carolina choose to heat with wood. Wood is inexpensive and can be easily obtained. It provides a large amount of heat per dollar cost.

Q. *Can you combine wood and solar?*

A. Yes, both wood and solar do a very good job of heating water. They work well together.

Q. *Is there a way I can heat with wood but not have to put up with the mess in the house?*

A. Yes. The Carolina Water Stove system is easily placed outside of the home.

Q. *Is there a system available that combines wood and solar together in order to heat my home?*

A. Yes. The Carolina Water Stoves system is one that uses the combination of wood and solar to totally heat your home as well as your hot water. The Carolina Water Stove system provides thermostatically controlled and evenly distributed heat throughout your home. It supplies heat through your present duct work or radiators without the present cost.

Q. *I have been hearing talk about the water stove system. Is the water stove system a solar system or a wood burning system?*

A. It is a combination system. It combines the use of our nations most natural resources, wood and solar. The combination of these two sources of abundant fuel provide a cost efficient method of heating your home and domestic hot water.

Q. *Can I use only wood to heat my home with the Carolina Water Stove system?*

A. Yes. But the tax credits only apply when you use solar collectors.

Q. *Once again, what's the bottom line? How much does the Carolina Water Stove combination solar and solid fuel total home heating system cost?*

A. An adequate total home heating package includes:

- (1) CWS-500 gallon solar tank including optional firebox
- (3) SolarMax 4' x 10' solar collectors
- (1) Solarmetrics solar controller
- (2) Grundfos 26-96 solar pumps
- (1) Honeywell thermostat
- (1) Dayton 24-volt relay
- (1) CWS-100 water to air coil - 156,000 BTU/hr. capacity
- (2) Gallons B-220 water treatment
- (1) One hundred foot package of 3/4" pipe and Thermacel insulation

Solar-Solid Fuel Total Home Heating Package	\$3650.00
Less Amount of Federal Tax Credit	1460.00
Less Amount of State Tax Credit	912.50
Subtract total amounts of Tax Credits	-2372.50
Out of pocket cost for your system	1277.50

• Larger Size Units Available

Financing Vital To Co-ops' Survival

This editorial is excerpted from testimony by Jim Hubbard, executive vice president of the statewide organization of Electric Membership Corporations, before a Senate hearing on S. 1300, a bill that would stabilize the rural electric financing program. The hearing was held by the Senate Subcommittee on Agriculture Credit and Rural Electrification.

In just over a year our nation will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the rural electric program—a truly bi-partisan partnership between government and people.

See related story on page 9

As we approach the second half century of service, rural electric cooperatives are still operating in the areas which other utilities could not or would not serve.

Co-ops still, by and large, serve thinly populated territories—in our state only 6.5 consumers per mile of line.

Nationwide the co-ops have built and maintained 50 percent of the nation's electric lines, but

account for less than 10 percent of its total electric sales.

The average electric cooperative's revenue per mile of installed line is about eight percent of that enjoyed by the average power company. At the same time, however, the co-op's investment per consumer is 162 percent of the investment of the power company.

Is it fair to expect our nation's rural cooperatives with an average consumer density of 4.7 per mile of line to pay more for their financing than, for example, our municipal systems with an average of 77.5 consumers per mile of distribution line? I respectfully suggest that it is not.

All of the factors outlined above contribute to the difficult financial and economic conditions in which electric cooperatives operate.

In our state over two-thirds of our co-ops' rates are higher than those of the investor-owned companies.

Because of these problems, the creation of a stable and adequate REA lending program as the center piece of rural electric financing is vital to the future survival of affordable rural electrification in America.

Co-ops borrow funds for one reason only—to build the facilities needed to provide adequate service to their rural consumer-members. The only alternative is to refuse service to the new home, farm and business loads developing in rural America. Unlike some other business entities, we do not have that option.

S. 1300 is the product of nearly a year of intensive study by a broad cross-section of distinguished individuals who are experienced and knowledgeable leaders from every segment of the rural electric program.

An over-riding consideration on their part was improving the productivity and quality of life in rural America by ensuring that all rural citizens have access to an adequate and reliable supply of electric energy at a cost reasonably comparable to that paid by the residents of our cities and towns.

Under S. 1300, the cooperatives will carry their own weight and pay their own way.

Rural electric cooperative members are entitled to the equitable treatment this act provides.

In This Issue . . .

- 6 EMCs Still Counting Toll From "Storm Of The Century"
- 9 Co-ops: "Trying To Keep The Lights Burning In Rural America"
- 16 Hank's Gardening Guide
- 20 Washington Scene
- 22 Grits

6



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Outdoor Drama Set At Waxhaw June 7-30

The outdoor drama, *Listen and Remember*, will open its 20th season on June 7 and will be presented every Thursday, Friday and Saturday night at 8:30 p.m. through June 30 at the Waxhaw Amphitheatre in Waxhaw.

Sponsored by the Waxhaws Historical Festival and Drama Association, this play dramatizes a chapter of American history from the first Indian settlers to the hardy pioneers of Old Waxhaws Settlement—including the family of future U.S. President Andrew Jackson. The drama portrays the struggle of these early Americans to tame the land and their fight to keep it free.

The Waxhaw Ampitheatre is located on Old Providence Road in Waxhaw. From Interstate 85, take the exit for N.C. 16 in Charlotte and follow it south directly into Waxhaw. Turn east (left) on N.C. 75 and follow the signs. An alternate route is to follow Highway 521 south, turning east on N.C. 75.

Tickets are available at the gate: \$4.50 for adults and \$2.50 for children under 12. Special group rates are also available.

For further information call (704) 843-5588 or (704) 843-2300, or write the Waxhaws Historical Festival And Drama Association, P.O. Box 1776, Waxhaw, NC 28173.

Four County EMC Gets REA Loan

Four County Electric Membership Corporation, Burgaw, has been awarded a \$3.1 million loan from the Rural Electrification Administration for an expansion project.

The loan will help finance extension of 82 miles of distribution line to serve 1,040 potential

consumers as well as construction of a new substation and upgrading 17 others.

Financing for 30 percent of the project will be obtained from the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation.

The EMC currently serves about 19,000 consumer-members in Duplin, Sampson, Bladen and Pender counties.

Three EMCs Cited For Safety Programs

Three North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations have been recognized for their outstanding employee safety programs.

Each of the three was awarded re-accreditation certificates for the programs by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association headquartered in Washington.

Blue Ridge EMC, Lenoir, was

presented its fifth accreditation while Randolph EMC, Asheboro, and South River EMC, Dunn, were each awarded a fourth accreditation.

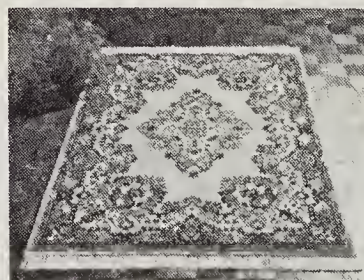
The certificates were presented during the 1984 Annual Meeting of the statewide EMC organization. (See pages 9-11 for more Annual Meeting coverage.)

Cover: Painting By Durham Artist

Our cover this month features a watercolor painting by Kenny Glenn of Durham, who is a former consumer-member of Wake Electric Membership Corporation, Wake Forest.

The painting is titled "Beach Bum."

For more details about Glenn and his work, see Grits, page 22.



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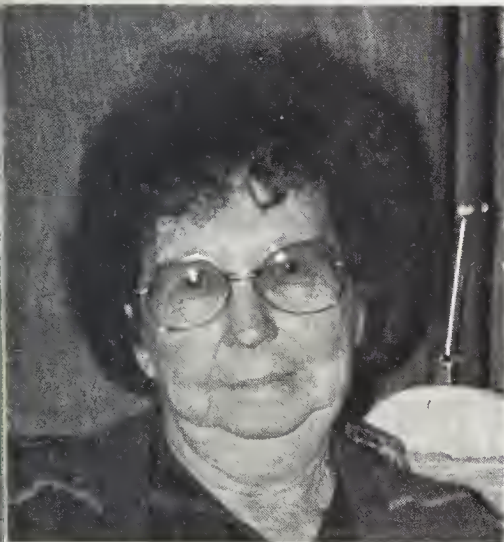
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Serving Rural Electric Cooperative Members for over 15 Years

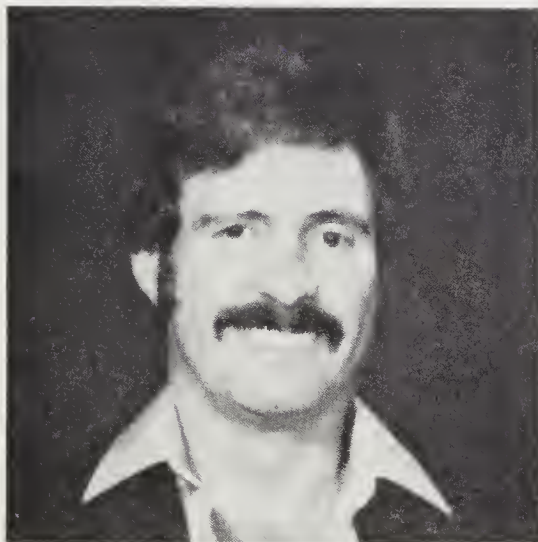
As these folks will tell you...

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Mrs. Joseph B. Smith
Wendland, North Carolina

"I was very pleased with the prompt response I received from C.I.F. last year after my stay in the hospital. Thank you very much. It really helped a lot."



Joe D. Dwyer
Reeds Spring, Missouri

"I have dealt with other insurance companies, but never have I received such good service. The \$3,250 you sent me came at a very needy time. I will be very happy to recommend your company to anyone."



Vera Lene Tickle
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Mrs. Betty Meekins embraces her nephew, William B. Meekins, after her home was damaged by the severe tornadoes that swept through Eastern North Carolina March 28. Mrs. Meekins, whose home is in the Snug Harbor community near Hertford, is a consumer-member of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation, Hertford.

Photo by Larry Johnson, Albemarle EMC

EMCs Still Counting Toll From "Storm Of The Century"

The killer tornadoes that cut a 450-mile swath through the Carolinas did a lot more than terrorize people, blast houses off their foundations and level huge forests.

They also ripped apart the electric power systems serving Eastern North Carolina along the way, leaving tens of thousands without power for days.

The state's Electric Membership Corporations suffered damages estimated in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, although those figures could go up as repair work continues.

"There's going to be a lot of work going on for a long, long time," said Lane Hudson, information-communication specialist with Lumbee River EMC, Red Springs, one of the hardest hit of the EMCs.

"Quality had to take a back seat to quantity and speed," as repair crews worked frantically to restore service as quickly as possible, Hudson said.

Now, the crews have to go back to replace the stop-gap repairs with permanent installations.

The wave of tornadoes—which have been called the "storm of the century"—brought massive destruction and death. The latest count puts the death toll at 44, including some EMC consumer-members and their relatives.

In addition, a lineman with South River EMC, Dunn, was killed while making emergency repairs when he



came in contact with a high voltage line. He was Robert Wayne Temple, a 15-year veteran employee of the cooperative who had handled numerous emergency repairs during his career at the EMC.

Meanwhile, the thousands who lost their homes included many EMC members—among them, Linda Whitehurst of Rt. 5, Greenville, who is a member of the Women's Committee of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, Tarboro. She also serves as vice chair-

man of the EMCs' Statewide Women's Committee.

Once the storm had passed, the EMCs' repair crews were marshalled and within a couple of hours were marching into the darkness with what Hudson called "a bootcamp mentality."

"It was like 'this is what we've trained for. Let's go out and do it!' There was a real sense of urgency about them. There was a lot of joking and talking, but I believe it was just a

The Day The Cars Flew Through The Air

It was a day when cars flew through the air.

It was Tornado Day—March 28, 1984.

"The lights flickered and my ears popped, then the roof came off. It was dark and storming and we were getting hit by everything blowing by: insulation, boards, bricks. We were just waiting for something to hit us and put us out of our misery."

That's how one member of South River Electric Membership Corporation, Dunn, described the experience of withstanding a tornado.

He's Weldon Fisher of the Cumberland County community of Beaver Dam, who said he and his family were

sitting around talking one second and running for cover the next.

"After it was over, we all huddled in the bathroom to get out of the rain," he said. "The false ceiling in the bathroom was the only thing left."

He said he started to go for help, then noticed that the car and two trucks that had been parked out back weren't out back anymore. Anyway, he could see during the flashes of lightning that the road was covered with uprooted and broken trees as well as pieces of houses.

Something else he noticed, too. There weren't any other houses around anymore.

Continued on page 8

release for them. They were working under a lot of pressure."

Much of the work was strenuous and virtually back-breaking. Trees felled by the giant storm had to be removed from blocked roadways before trucks could pass. Everywhere repairmen were on foot. The sounds of chain saws filled the air, along with the moans and grunts of workmen clearing the way.

With roads and fields impassable in many areas, workmen often had to line up and carry poles on their backs and set them in the ground by hand, just as their forerunners had done nearly 50 years ago.

As the hours passed, the hard labor with little food or sleep took their toll. Fatigue—both physical and mental—set in and the tension began to mount as the full magnitude of the disaster began to sink in.

"You could see it in our linemen's eyes," Hudson said. "You could go for miles upon miles without catching your breath from seeing things torn up."

As the work continued, even the nervous energy that kept the workmen going began to wear off. The men were very tired, but they kept working, promising themselves a good rest and a good meal when the lights were back on.

"I saw some weary men," Hudson said. "I heard one of them say 'don't close your eyes, you'll go to sleep.'"

Lumbree River EMC Line Superintendent Billy Stutts put the damage to that co-op's lines at about \$170,000.

"There were three or four places that were just torn all to pieces," he said. More than 6,000 members, nearly one-third of the system, was out of service, many for up to four days.

Meter Reading Foreman Jimmy Melvin said residents were waiting in many areas with hot coffee and snacks for the workmen, but in other places sightseers often got in the way.

"We were even buzzed by some small planes, getting low enough for a good look," he said. "But it was rough out there. We worked five straight days without thinking of eating a regular meal. People sitting out there in the dark were sure glad to see us. But I've never seen destruction

like that before."

"In some places, poles were snapped like you break a match stick. I saw a two-by-four driven through an oak tree, sticking out both sides. There were some strange things—things that were there aren't there anymore. You can't compare damage like that to anything."

Nearby South River EMC, Dunn, was hit hard, too, with damage estimates topping \$250,000.



I've worked through three tornadoes and a hurricane, but this massive destruction and devastation over such a wide area was overwhelming



"It was just unbelievable," Member Relations Director F. B. Keith said as he recalled the hours right after the storm. "I've worked through three tornadoes and a hurricane, but this massive destruction and devastation over such a wide area was overwhelming."

He said many of his co-op's members will suffer hardships for awhile, as they rebuild their lives. But he feels the mental damage may cause even more suffering in the long run.

"Some people will be hurting for a long time to come," he said. "Some will probably never recover from it. Some things can be replaced, but some things will never be the same again."

Keith said several thousand mem-

**Tornado damage reports by
Contributing Editor Kemp
Ward**

bers were without power immediately after the storm hit but began to get service restored steadily over the next three days, as workmen struggled to rebuild parts of the system.

Pitt and Greene EMC, Farmville, was hit too, losing about 15 miles of line. About 2,200 members, over a one-third of the system, were without electricity for varying amounts of time. It took work crews four days to completely restore service.

Damage estimates have been set at about \$85,000.

The twisters also cut a path through Tri-County EMC, Dudley, where 80 percent of the system was out for varying lengths of time.

Manager Robert Holmes said that a few hundred were out for several days, though, as workmen struggled through the massive destruction.

"The only time I've ever seen this kind of destruction was in World War II," he said.

He estimated the damage at about \$70,000.

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC was lightly touched by the tornadoes, losing about a mile of line and putting 188 members in the dark. All were back on the next day. Damage estimates reached about \$7,000.

A little farther north, though, the tornadoes got mean again, cutting through the area served by Roanoke EMC, Rich Square.

In all, 58 homes in the co-op's service area were simply blown apart. About 1,400 members were without power, some for three days. The damage bill is expected to top \$70,000—according to EMC officials.

As the tornadoes continued their trek through the Tar Heel state, they slammed into the Snug Harbor community served by Albemarle EMC, Hertford, destroying 33 homes and throwing several hundred members into the dark. Service was restored the next day by swiftly-moving work crews, but the damage is expected to reach \$20,000.

"A lot of times we think people don't really care about each other but you should have seen the outpouring of love and help that came from those people for each other," said Larry Johnson, the cooperative's manager of energy planning.

EMCs Still Counting Toll

Continued from page 6

"I just turned around and went back under the bathroom ceiling," Fisher said. "I didn't want to survive the tornado, then get killed going for help."

So they huddled in the darkness, driving rain all around them and the temperature dropping. Everybody was scared, but at least they were alive—everybody, that is, except Lucky, the dog. Fisher said they sat there hurt, dismayed by the destruction, numbed by the cold rain, feeling their hearts sink even deeper.

Morning light gave them a look at a world they'd never seen. There was shock and surprise. But everybody's face lit up as they saw old Lucky, running to meet them.

The family is now living in a temporary home, making plans to rebuild. "I heard somebody talking about it say that it tore Beaver Dam apart, but it didn't—it brought us together," he said. "People have been wonderful. I've got more clothes now than I did to begin with."

As he talked, he looked around the area where homes and a huge forest once stood. Now there's nothing. The homes are gone and so are the trees.

"The tornado must have been a mile wide," said Joe McCormick, a Lumbee River EMC member who lived near Laurinburg.

"It was like the world was coming to an end. People around here were scared. Now, people get scared every time a cloud comes up. They get upset all over again."

"They say they don't hit twice in the same place and I hope to God they don't," said Mrs. Betty Meekins of Snug Harbor, a community in Perquimans County that was hard hit by the storm.

"I was scared to death. It was the longest 30 seconds I've ever spent. I don't want to go through that again."

She said she and her husband and some visiting relatives were talking in the living room of her house when they heard a tornado warning over

the television and got up to take a look outside.

"My husband opened the door and then said, 'My God, I hear a train coming, get in the bathroom!' He was holding on to the door or he would have been sucked up through the roof."

In addition to damaging her house, the tornado picked their garage up and set it down on top of their boat, damaged their car and truck and knocked down four trees, Mrs. Meekins said.

"Right next door there's a tree with a piece of plywood through the middle of it," she said, "and the plywood isn't even ragged on the edge. It's hard to believe."

It was the same story for dozens of towns and communities in the tornadoes' path, including Red Springs, where the tornado leveled part of town, missing Lumbee River EMC's office by only a block.

The National Guard took control of the town, sealing off all roads leading in and out.

"It was literally a war zone atmosphere: lights flashing, sirens, people, destruction everywhere, people in military uniforms, aircraft overhead," Lumbee River's Lane Hudson recalled. "It felt like 'The Day After.'"

The next day people were out picking up the pieces, clearing giant oaks from the streets, sifting through the rubble.

"The way the people attacked those trees, it was like they were getting back at the tornadoes," Hudson said.

"It was like a hive of bees. The sound came from all sides, everywhere."

All across the stricken area shelters were quickly set up for the homeless, the Red Cross brought in disaster experts and supplies, businesses donated items, fund-raising drives began.

Meanwhile, volunteers poured in to lend a hand with the cleanup and to help the homeless, restaurants offered food and neighbors opened their homes and spare bedrooms.

One of the many volunteers was Chuck Weaver of Fayetteville who drove over to nearby Red Springs to offer his help and ended up clearing debris at the badly-damaged First Presbyterian Church.

"I had a couple of days, so I just came down here to help," he said as he worked. "When I came through here I couldn't believe it. Seeing it in the newspaper is one thing, but seeing it close up is something else. They really need the help."

The church has been meeting at the Lumbee River EMC office since the tornado struck. Other churches damaged in the storm are meeting in other buildings around town while rebuilding.

"I've heard that right now there's more carpenters in this area than anywhere else in the nation—rebuilding," Lane Hudson said.

As the clean-up continues, little by little the reminders of the destruction are being erased from the landscape.

But for those who lived through it, nothing will ever erase the memories of Tornado Day.

11 EMCs Aid Tornado-Struck Co-ops

A total of 11 Tar Heel EMCs provided assistance to tornado-struck cooperatives across Eastern North Carolina by dispatching line crews to help restore service as quickly as possible.

They were Brunswick, Shallotte; Carteret-Craven, Morehead City; Jones-Onslow, Jacksonville; Tideland, Pantego; Edgecombe-Martin County, Tarboro; Four County, Burgaw; Pee Dee, Wadesboro; Central, Sanford; Piedmont, Hillsborough; Randolph, Asheboro and Wake, Wake Forest.

In addition, Union EMC, Monroe, provided assistance to a nearby South Carolina cooperative.

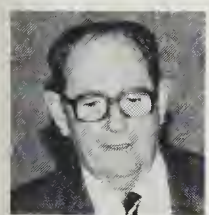
A number of contractor crews were also called in to help with the repairs.

"Words cannot express enough appreciation for the dedication by personnel to restore service to the affected areas," said Lewis Hobson of the statewide EMC organization's staff, who coordinated arrangements for the emergency aid.

Co-ops: "Trying To Keep The Lights On In Rural America"

Two key leaders in the effort to shore up the nation's rural electric financing program responded to opponents of the legislation in addresses at the 1984 Annual Meeting of the North Carolina statewide organization of Electric Membership Corporations. A related editorial appears on page 3.

The chief spokesman for the nation's rural electric systems has charged the administration with using "phony figures" and "sloganeering" to attack pending rural electric legislation.



Partridge then executive vice president of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

"We're trying to keep the lights on in rural America, and the administration is playing numbers games."

Partridge, who has since retired from NRECA, made his comments in an address at the 1984 Annual Meeting of North Carolina's statewide organization of Electric Membership Corporations.

"Over and over again," he said, "administration spokesmen use the word 'forgiveness,' implying that rural electric systems won't have to repay their loans if the rural electric financing bill now before Congress is passed. Nothing could be further from the truth. Every penny will be repaid with interest."

Continuing his criticism of administration policy, Partridge said officials repeatedly claim that the legislation will 'bust the budget,' when in fact passage of the legislation will raise interest rates for rural electric systems and reduce government competition in the money market.

"Under this act, rural electric sys-

tems will actually be paying more, not less, to the federal government.

"To keep the lights burning in rural America, we need a strong Rural Electrification Administration (REA). The legislation, which has overwhelmingly passed the House of Representatives despite repeated attempts to misrepresent its provisions, will save REA. It creates no new programs. It simply keeps the tried and tested one we have," he continued.

On March 1, the House of Representatives passed the Rural Electric and Telephone Self-Sufficiency Act by a vote of 283 to 111. The bill's primary objective is to preserve the REA revolving fund, which is the major source of financing for the nation's nearly 1,000 rural electric distribution systems. The Senate is currently holding hearings on the bill, which has 41 Senate co-sponsors.

In addressing the meeting's banquet session, Rep. Eligio (Kika) de la Garza (D-Tex.), chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, said he was quite concerned about the way the bill has been described in the media.

Honors

A total of 24 EMC directors and an EMC manager were cited for their years of service to the rural electric program at the Annual Meeting of the statewide EMC organization. Look for a story about these honors in the June issue of *Carolina Country*.

He said that "many of the stories in the media have given an accurate picture of what the bill does.



De la Garza

"In some cases, however, there have been stories which trouble me because they lead people to think that rural electric and telephone co-ops are somehow going to be able to legally avoid repayment of their loans."

De la Garza pointed out that "not one single borrower will be relieved on any obligation, and the net impact on the federal budget will be minimal or maybe even zero."

Partridge said, "We realized from the beginning there was sharp disagreement between the administration and the leaders of the rural electrification program, but we hoped debate on this issue would be conducted on the merits of the case, not with the use of catchy, misleading slogans and substitution of phony figures and groundless claims for facts.

"These attacks are senseless, serving only to damage and discredit a program which works for millions of rural Americans and benefits the country as a whole."

"We're trying to keep the power on in rural America without running the costs through the roof. But the numbers game the administration is playing ignores the faces and places that make up this vast and changing land," Partridge stated.

Partridge continued: "Rural Americans are a proud people and the administration does them a great disservice by implying they won't repay their loans. The administration does this entire country a grave disservice by saying the job of rural electrification is finished at a time when rural America is expanding, growing and diversifying as never before.

"Rural America is a land of opportunity. New people, new businesses and industries are reaching out for elbow room, representing new economic growth in rural America, a more diversified economy, new off-farm jobs, more money on Main Street and one enormous challenge for America's rural electric systems.

Continued on page 11

Statewide EMC Organization Elects Four Directors, Six Managers As '84-'85 Officers

A director and two managers representing Electric Membership Corporations based in Burgaw, Rich Square and Wadesboro have been chosen to join the ranks of officers in the North Carolina statewide EMC organization.

They join six other officers for the organization's three separate corporations: the N.C. Association of Electric Cooperatives (N.C. AEC), the N.C. Electric Membership Corporation (N.C. EMC) and Tarheel Electric Membership Association (TEMA).

N.C. AEC is the general association for the electric cooperatives, while N.C. EMC is the generating and transmission power supply arm. TEMA is a central purchasing and materials supply operation serving the EMCs.

Altogether the officers include four EMC directors and six EMC managers. The newcomers to those slates are:

- R. W. Blanchard of Rt. 1, Turkey, who is president of the board at Four County EMC, Burgaw, was elected secretary-treasurer of N.C. AEC.

- Emmett Patterson, manager of Pee Dee EMC, Wadesboro, was elected vice president of N.C. AEC.

- Eugene W. Brown Jr., manager of Roanoke EMC, Rich Square, was elected secretary-treasurer of the TEMA Board—after having been elected to a three-year term on that board.

The third N.C. AEC officer is Hassell B. Gann of Rt. 1, Mayodan, a director of Davidson EMC, Lexington, who was elected president of the association board. He had served as secretary-treasurer of the N.C. AEC board for the past year.

The two other TEMA officials are EMC directors who were part of this board's leadership team during the past year: Jimmy R. Horton of Rt. 2, Cleveland, president of the board at Crescent EMC, Statesville, was elected president after serving for a year as vice president and Richard H. Johnson of Rt. 4, Wadesboro, a director of Pee Dee EMC, Wadesboro, was elected vice president after a year as secretary-treasurer.

The entire slate of officers for N.C. EMC was re-elected: Marvin Marshall, manager of South River EMC, Dunn, president; Philip L. Wally, manager of Union EMC, Monroe, vice president and Wayne Keller, manager of Blue Ridge EMC, Lenoir, secretary-treasurer.

Meanwhile, Blanchard and Gann were also elected to the TEMA board.

In addition, Bob McDuffie, manager of Randolph EMC, Asheboro, was elected to the TEMA board.

Moore Elected For Eighth Term On National Board

Horace Moore, a director of Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation, Farmville, has been elected to his eighth term as North Carolina's representative on the board of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

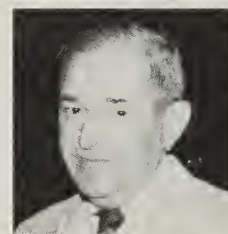


Moore

The national group, which is headquartered in Washington, represents about 1,000 electric co-ops across the country.

Moore, who has been on the Pitt and Greene EMC board since 1968, is a past president of the statewide EMC organization.

N.C. AEC



Hassell Gann
President



Emmett Patterson
Vice President

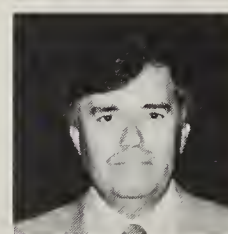


R. W. Blanchard
Sec.-Treas.

N.C. EMC



Marvin Marshall
President

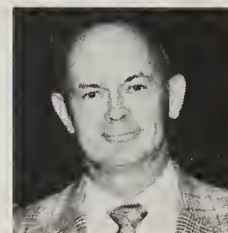


Philip Wally
Vice President

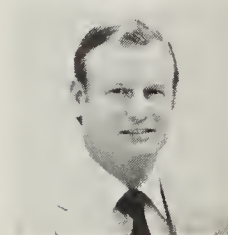


Wayne Keller
Sec.-Treas.

TEMA



Jimmy Horton
President



Richard Johnson
Vice President



Eugene Brown
Sec.-Treas.

Co-ops: "Trying To Keep The Lights On In Rural America"

Continued from page 9

"We were busy lighting up the countryside while most people were

calling it an impossible dream. And we knew even then we were taking on a never-ending job, a commitment to the future to provide adequate, dependable power to keep pace with rural America's changing needs.

"We now own and maintain nearly half the power lines in the nation to serve less than 10 percent of the people and still average fewer than five families per mile of line, with

average revenue per mile still only a fraction of that enjoyed by urban utilities. Further, our retail rates average at least 14 percent above our city cousins'.

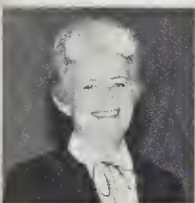
"Phasing out REA, as this administration seems determined to do, won't keep the lights on in rural America."

Partridge called on his audience to support the REA legislation to "keep the lights burning brightly."

Other speakers addressing the Annual Meeting were Dr. Jean Hauser, a management consultant; Dr. Charles Petty, executive director of the Governor's Office of Citizen Affairs; Dr. Jack N. Behrman, a professor in the UNC-CH School of Business Administration; Agriculture Commissioner Jim Graham; former Congressman L. Richardson Preyer; former Governor Robert W. Scott, who is president of the N.C. Department of Community Colleges; and Carlyle Teague, executive vice president of the N.C. Cooperative Council.

Women's Committee Re-elects Officers

Two Pitt County women have been re-elected to top leadership posts with the Women's Committee of the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives.



Jane Patterson

Jane Patterson of Farmville, a member of the Women's Committee of Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation, Farmville, was elected to a second term as chairwoman.



Linda Whitehurst

Linda Whitehurst of Rt. 5, Greenville, a member of the Women's Committee of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, Tarboro, has been re-elected vice-chairwoman.



Anne Williamson

Anne Williamson of Rt. 1, Whiteville, a member of the Women's Committee of Brunswick EMC, Shallotte, was also re-elected to the board of the National Rural Electric Women's Association.

Mrs. Patterson, whose husband J. D. Patterson is manager of Pitt and Greene EMC, had served for the past year as vice-chairwoman of the group.

The EMC women's organization is composed of representatives of the EMC women's committees, which serve as a liaison between the local co-ops and their consumer-members in the areas of education and public relations.

The national women's group provides a communications link between rural electric women and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, and assists the Washington-based organization in planning programs affecting rural women.

Brunswick County Senior Awarded EMC Scholarship

A Brunswick County youth has been awarded the 1984 Rural Electric Youth Tour Scholarship from the Women's Committee of the statewide organization of Electric Membership Corporations.



Causey

He is Burnice Joseph Causey Jr., son of Burnice and Eloise Causey of Shallotte, who represented Brunswick EMC, Shallotte, on the

Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington last summer.

The \$1,000 scholarship is awarded annually to a high school student selected from among the participants in the previous year's tour.

The recipient is chosen on the basis of scholastic achievement, financial need, and extra-curricular activities in the school and the community.

Causey, a West Brunswick High School senior, plans to enroll at Duke University next fall.

REAP's Slate Of Officers Re-elected

The manager of Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation, Shallotte, has been elected to a fourth term as chairman of the North Carolina rural electric program's political action organization.

David J. Batten will head the slate of officers for the Rural Electric Action Program, which is composed of employees and directors of the state's EMCs.

Also re-elected was Ann Curren, manager of office services at Wake EMC, Wake Forest, vice-chairman.

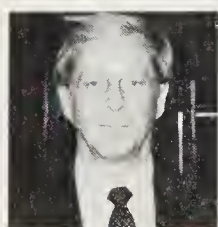
Norman (Pete) Parker, director of consumer accounting at Halifax EMC, Enfield, was re-elected secretary and James Lee Burney, manager of public affairs for the statewide EMC organization, was re-elected treasurer.



Batten



Curren



Parker

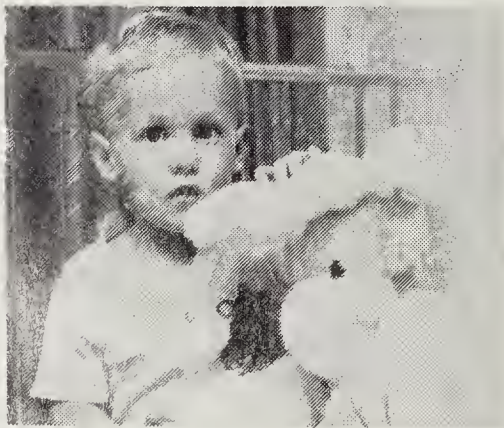


Burney

EMC ANNUAL MEETINGS CALENDAR...



Electric Membership Corporation		Time	Location
Date	Corporation		
May			
11	Harkers Island, Harkers Island	Registration: 7:15 p.m. Business Meeting: 8:00 p.m.	Harkers Island Elementary School
June			
2	Halifax, Enfield	Registration: 12:30 p.m. Business Meeting: 2:00 p.m.	Enfield Middle School, Enfield



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40x60x14	\$6,577
40x75x16	\$7,936
50x75x14	\$8,818
50x100x16	\$11,956
60x75x14	\$10,487
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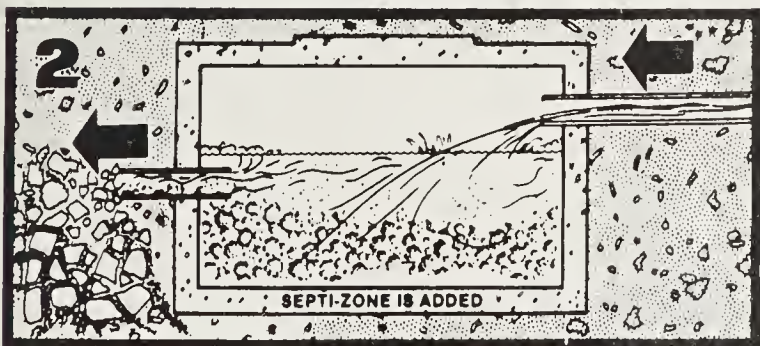
Pour this safe, non-corrosive powder into your
commode once a month...and

END SEPTIC TANK SMELL, CLOGGING AND BACKUP!

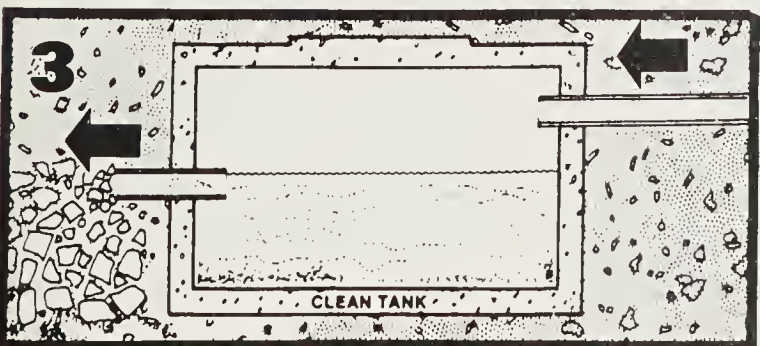
(IN MOST CASES, RESULTS
VISIBLE OVERNIGHT)



Pipes clogged? Tank walls and bottom
messed up with sludges and solids?



SEPTI-ZONE cleans pipes from commode
to tank...dissolves sludge...works its
way down...



Liquefies solids...cleans outlet pipe...
frees drain fields—with no pumping!
Regular use keeps system clean and trou-
ble-free!

Septic tanks smell, clog, back up, and
need pumping for a few simple reasons.
And the new household cleaners are
among the chief culprits.

Bleaches, detergents, and new "miracle"
cleaners may keep clothes, dishes, floors,
and walls clean...but they can sure mess
up sewage disposal systems. Because, at
the same time that they remove dirt and
grime, they actually destroy the good bac-
teria and digestive enzymes that normally
break down and liquefy solid wastes, oils,
fats, and greases in cesspools and septic
tanks. Then wastes pile up, drains become
blocked, sewage backs up—and your sys-
tem literally stinks!

HOW SEPTI-ZONE WORKS IN SEPTIC SYSTEMS

Now, you can save money by avoid-
ing many pumping jobs. Simply pour SEPTI-
ZONE into your commode, flush...and
let it go to work—with results generally
visible overnight! SEPTI-ZONE not only
adds new bacteria to replace those that
have been killed off; it provides 3 powerful,
fast-acting natural clean-out enzymes to
work along with the good bacteria. Lipase
breaks down the hard fats into tiny
globules; amylase (or diastase) disinte-
grates and digests hard starches by
changing them into water-soluble sugars;
proteinase eliminates smells by turning
solid organic waste matter into odorfree,

biodegradable liquids. But SEPTI-ZONE
doesn't even stop there. After it turns all
those system-clogging solids into liquids,
so they'll flow freely through your pipes and
septic tank and out into the drain fields—it
contains special "wetting agents" that
"open" the earth, so it can quickly absorb
the liquids from the drain fields. At the
same time, SEPTI-ZONE's efficient pH
controls help keep a neutral chemical bal-
ance...so your pipes won't corrode, and
your surrounding soil won't become too
acid or alkaline. There you are—with your
pipes and tank walls cleaned out, smells
gone, your drain fields working freely...
all papers, fibers, cotton, sludge, greases,
and fats digested—all starting overnight
and your septic tank problems solved
quickly.

SEPTI-ZONE is non-poisonous, non-
corrosive, non-toxic...completely safe to
use...harmless to humans and animals.
No wonder it's been called "the wondrous,
daisy-fresh gobble of septic tank gunk!"
You'll call it your *septic tank insurance pol-
icy*. Especially since it's *guaranteed to deliv-
er trouble-free use of your septic tank—
OR WE'LL REFUND EVERY PENNY YOU
PAID FOR YOUR SEPTI-ZONE!*

Regular use keeps tanks clean and
trouble free and may save you many
pumping jobs. Excellent in cesspools, too.

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Mrs. Edwina Lundquist, Lake Placid, N.Y.

"Best we have ever used. What you say it will do, it does!"

Mrs. H.D. Holabird, Forestville, CA

"In January I ordered 2 lbs. of your SEPTI-ZONE and it really works. We used SEPTI-ZONE as directed, putting it in at the start of each line so that the material would flow through the entire system before reaching the main city line. A week or so after doing this, we noticed that at each inspection port, the pipe looked unusually clean, such as it had never been. Following this, we used 3 oz. as suggested every week. Since using this we have had no trouble in our lines and they continue to look so clean it is remarkable."

J.A. Blackadder, Monrovia, CA

"SEPTI-ZONE saved us \$1,000—the price of a new system. We have half a case left yet, but will never be without it. Thanks again."

P.S. Septi-Zone is the best, believe me!"

G.J. Greenier, Burdett, N.Y.

"Just want to say that SEPTI-ZONE has accomplished everything you said it would. A few days after using your product as directed, the problem of our septic tank contents backing up was solved. No problem of flushing any more, since starting treatment with 'SEPTI-ZONE', and no more worry on our minds."

John Muller, Howell, N.J.

(ORIGINALS OF ALL LETTERS ARE KEPT ON FILE IN OUR OFFICES FOR EXAMINATION.)

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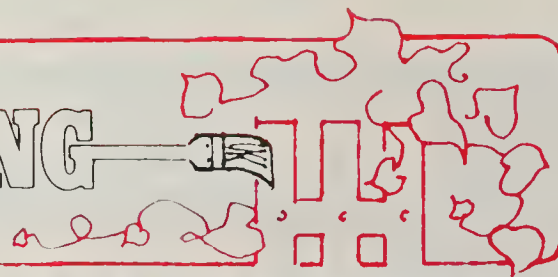
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COUNTRY KITCHEN



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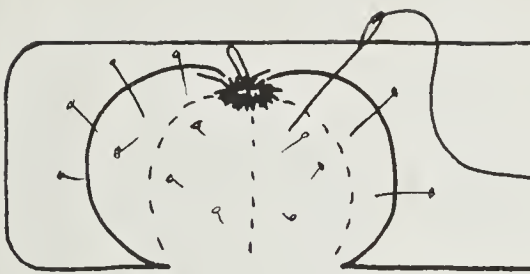
White Angel Pie

Submitted by Sandra L. Hinshaw of Greensboro

4½ T. cornstarch
¾ cup sugar
1½ cup boiling water
Pinch of salt
3 egg whites

3 T. sugar
1½ T. vanilla
½ cup whipped cream
Small amount chocolate,
shaved

Combine ¾ cup sugar and water and bring to a boil. Remove from heat and stir in cornstarch, blended to a smooth consistency with small amount of water; cook until thick and clear, preferably in double boiler. Add salt to egg whites, beat until stiff, add sugar and vanilla, beating until creamy. Pour cornstarch mixture over egg whites, beating constantly. Cool and pour into baked pie shell. Spread whipped cream over pie and sprinkle with chocolate shavings.



PINS · N · NEEDLES



9372
8-18



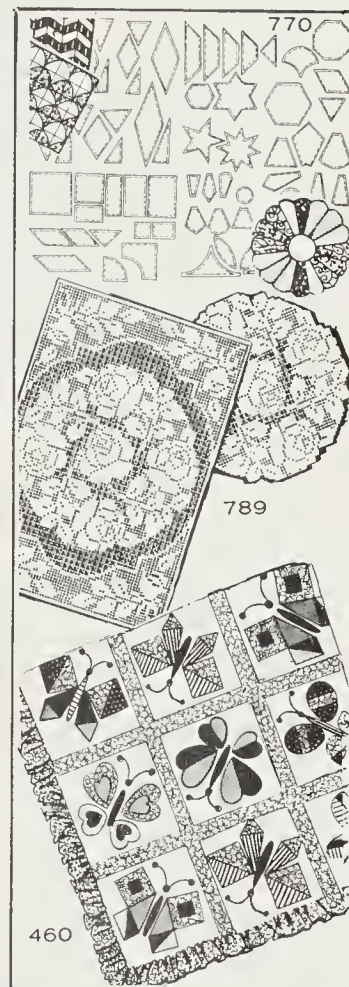
9292 34-52



9260 8-20



9419
10½-26½



Pattern No. 9372 is cut in Misses Sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18.
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U-BUILD PROJECTS

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Measuring 77" tall by 38" wide x 22" deep, the armoire's two five-foot doors permit easy access for storing men's and women's clothes.

The plan contains complete material shopping and cutting lists together with step-by-step pictures, instructions and exploded drawings. You

can build it from oak or pine. ARMOIRE Plan #729 is \$4.50.

This armoire is part of an entire country-style bedroom suite. The other pieces in the set are the matching CHEST-ON-CHEST Plan #680, \$3.75. It measures 69" high x 41" wide x 20" deep. The companion 54" wide DRESSER and MIRROR Plan #691 is \$3.75. To round out the set we have a NIGHTSTAND and HEADBOARD Plan #692, also \$3.75. To obtain all four plans request BEDROOM SET C56, only \$9.95. Pattern prices include first class postage and handling.

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HANK'S GARDENING GUIDE

A dry May and a leaking June
Make the farmer whistle
a merry tune.

—Old English Rhyme

May is the transition month—that gradual change from spring into summer. It's a time to remove faded blossoms, rework compacted soil around plants, make cuttings of chrysanthemums and concentrate on planting summer bedding plants.

Summer Composting

Save such as hedge trimmings, shredded leaves, grass clippings, and vegetable garden wastes that accumulate all summer. Such materials make a good compost, forming valuable soil conditioners for adding to vegetable gardens and flowerbeds this fall.

Place compost materials in layers as they become available. Add a few shovelfuls of soil and a sprinkling of nitrogen fertilizer between the layers. Keep the compost wet, and turn it occasionally for aeration and more uniform decomposition.

By late fall your summer compost should be ready for adding to areas to be tilled. You'll find it very beneficial and less expensive than buying peat or other organic material. The compost pile is best located in an out-of-the-way place, as it can be a bit unsightly.

Planting Container-Grown Plants

Gardeners sometimes fail to follow several basic rules when setting out container-grown plants that have been purchased from a nursery or garden center.

Dig the planting hole about six inches deeper than the depth of the root system and twice as wide as the width of the container. Always remove the plant from the container,

unless the container is plantable.

Add about one-third to one-half volume of organic matter to the soil removed from the hole. Mix well, to form a mixture to fill around the ball of the plant as it is set in place. It is advisable to apply water as soil is filled around the ball. This drives out any air pockets that may form.

If the plant is root- or pot-bound, make three or four slits with a knife. Cut down the sides of the root ball. Then run your fingers through the root mass to fray and loosen roots. If roots and soil are compacted, it will help to soak the ball in water.

Pinch Plants For Flowers

It's wise not to go around pinching plants just for the fun of it, but do pinch mums, zinnia, salvia (red sage), cockscomb (celosia), petunia, marigold and snapdragon to slow down top growth. This encourages lateral branching and more abundant blooms. Plants pinched back will be less likely to blow over or break in high winds.

With mums, pinching should continue until mid-July. By then, growth should be compact and sturdy with flower buds forming. Usually, one early pinching is enough for annuals such as petunias. Some newer types of annuals are self-branching and do not need pinching.

House Plants



House plants can become an integral part of the garden setting now as foliage plants and all types of indoor plants may be plunged in the shady garden border, mostly among shrubs, to spend the summer. They will benefit from summer rains, fresh air and sunshine. When plunging a pot, dig a hole the size of the pot, and plant "pot and all."

Summer Cultivation

Newly set plants should have a generous circle of cultivated soil around them in order to keep grass and weeds from competing for moisture. A shallow soil depression into which water can be poured when drought threatens can help.

In some ways, a soil covering or mulch around these new plants is even better than cultivation. Sometimes both mulch and a soil depression are used. Even with a mulch, it is helpful to use water during exceptionally dry periods.

And, remember that plants in pots or window boxes dry out much more quickly than those growing in a garden. They need more frequent waterings.

Climbing Roses

As soon as climbing roses have finished blooming, they should be pruned. Cut some of the oldest wood back to the ground to a strong and healthy new shoot. New canes will soon come out which will produce next year's flowers.

Climbers need no other pruning except the removal of dead or diseased wood.

Summer Pruning

Try summer pruning if you want to have beautiful, bushy, well-shaped plants that will bloom profusely. Summer pruning means pruning shrubs as they grow. Prune by cutting or pinching out growing tips.

This causes the plant to produce several vigorous new shoots. In May or June, summer prune abelia, forsythia, the privets and ligustrums, mock orange, deutzia, althea, bush honeysuckle, weigelia, euonymus and other similar shrubs. In pruning the spireas, cut out a few of the oldest canes (stems) at ground level. This results in a more compact and heavily-flowering plant.

Smart Vegetable Growers Borrow From People Who Know Their Cabbage.

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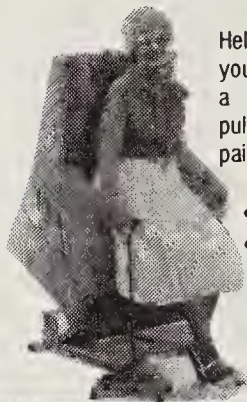
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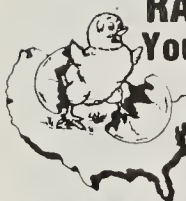
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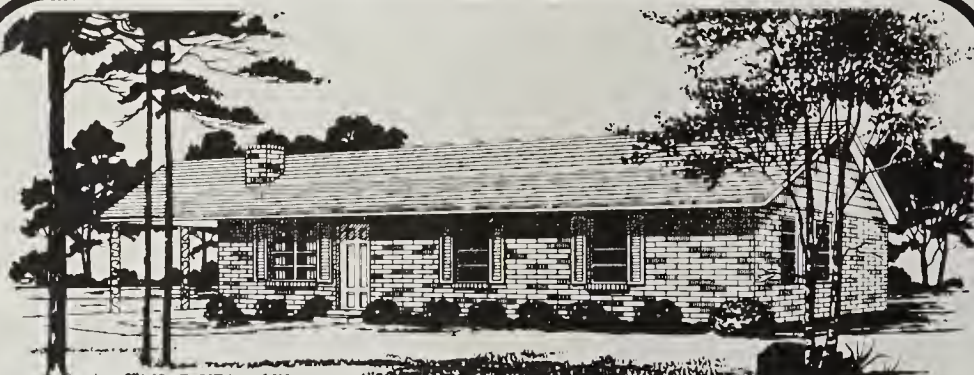
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Ellen Retires

Finney Takes Manager Post At Halifax EMC

Michael E. Finney of Washington, N.C., has been named executive vice president and general manager of Halifax Electric Membership Corporation, Enfield.

He succeeds James T. Ellen, a veteran of more than three decades as an employee of the cooperative, who has retired.

Ellen joined the EMC in 1952 to



Finney



Ellen

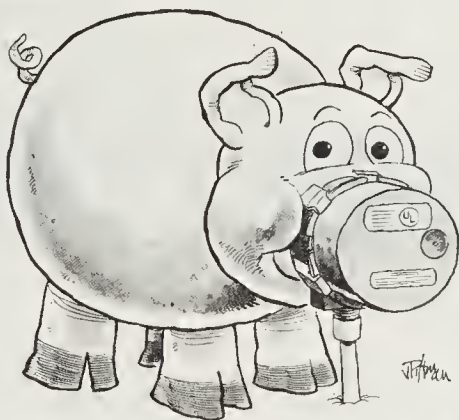
assist with staking, mapping, collecting delinquent accounts and reading meters. In less than a year, he was named electrification advisor.

After serving in that post for almost 10 years, he was appointed staff assistant and director of member services, a post he held for the next 16 years.

He became manager in 1978 and served in that capacity until his retirement March 31.

Finney was previously director of electric utilities with the City of Washington. The Florida native, who began his career with Florida Power and Light Co., has special training in power line design and construction.

He is married to the former Ginger Hodges of Beaufort County. They have four daughters.




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WASHINGTON SCENE

Tobacco Foes, Unable To Kill Support Program, Taking Aim At Smoking

*Tobacco is a dirty weed, I like it.
It satisfies no normal need, I like it.
It makes you thin, it makes you lean,
It takes the hair right off your bean,
It's the worst darn stuff I've ever seen.
I like it.*

—G. L. Memminger (1860-1940)

Fairfax County, Va., lies just across the Potomac River from the

nation's capital and is a part of the greater Washington metropolitan area.

Fairfax has one national distinction: it is the richest county in the United States. Its residents have a per capita income of slightly more than \$30,000.

Recently it added another distinction: It became the first

county in the country, as far as anyone knows, to pass an ordinance that says no one who smokes will be employed by its police or fire departments.

That this should happen surprised many in the Washington area, but the fact that it happened in Virginia was both ironic and incredible.

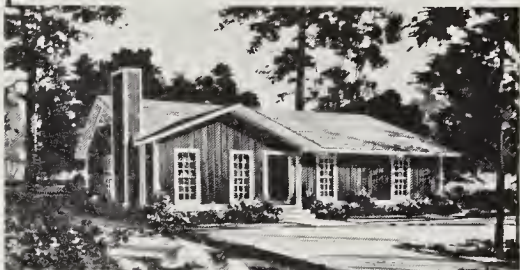
Virginia, of course, was the state where the earliest settlers grew tobacco and shipped it back to England. Tobacco was considered one of the richest finds in the new continent by John Smith and his companions.

George Washington, who grew the leaf on his plantation, wrote to the Continental Congress on behalf of his troops, "If you can't send money, send tobacco."

But the action by the Fairfax county commissioners seemed to be in keeping with the times, at least around Washington. Here, tobacco is under heavy attack.

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on the federal tobacco program, so necessary to North Carolina farmers and to the state's economy, is met with increasing opposition.

Unable to defeat the program in Congress, enemies of tobacco use seem to be saying now, "If we can't stop people from growing it, we'll stop them from using it."

Here are some things that have been happening:

- Restaurants have limited smoking to certain areas, and in most of them the "smoking area" is far smaller than the restricted portion.

- The Civil Aeronautics Board recently entertained a proposal to ban smoking on all flights of less than 200 miles, which would mean about 90 percent of all flights. This was defeated after congressmen like North Carolina's Tim Valentine protested, arguing that the airlines could still serve customers whiskey while banning cigarettes.

- The Washington City Council is considering an ordinance that pretty much tells people where they can smoke instead of where they can't. Stores as well as public offices would be included.

The list could go on and on, including lower insurance premiums to policy holders who don't smoke and the ban of cigarette advertising on television and radio.

Clearly the war on tobacco use is heating up.

But how effective is it?

Well, in 1983, the American Cancer Society claims, Americans smoked 31 billion fewer cigarettes than they did in 1982, the biggest drop ever recorded in a single year.

Most of the drop probably came from the dire warnings against the use of cigarettes that are issued daily from the Office of the Surgeon General to the nation's heart associations, but the battle against smoking in all sorts of places is a part of the picture.

It is a fact that many tobacco manufacturers are working less than full time and that prices on the Maryland tobacco market, which opened last month, are down—partly because of the quality.

The cumulative effect of all this effort by those opposed to smoking

cannot help the economy of the states such as North Carolina and Kentucky where tobacco is a major cash crop and cigarette manufacturing is a principal industry.

Tobacco companies aren't going to go broke; they had the foresight during the past several years to diversify and get into such things as food, beer, soft drinks and other products.

But a farmer trying to make a living on a few acres, with a small tobacco allotment, can't go out and buy himself a Dole Pineapple operation.

As long as the price support program exists—and it has been altered in recent years to make it less vulnerable to attack—farmers can probably make it.

Still, that outlook is becoming less certain as the people who're taking aim at smoking are battling harder each year to close the program down.

June 7 Hearing Set On REA Financing Bill

The Senate bill to stabilize the rural electric program's financing mechanism has been scheduled for mark-up and hearing on June 7 by the Senate Agriculture Committee.

The bill, S. 1300, is a companion to a measure that cleared the House in March by a vote of 283 to 111.

Eleven of the 18 members of the Senate committee are co-sponsors of the legislation.

(See article, page 9 and editorial, page 3, for details on the bill.)

Capital City's Attention Focused On Meese Affair

Washington is abuzz with talk about the race for the Democratic presidential nomination, but what interests the capital city most this spring are the trials and tribulations of Edwin Meese.

Meese, who is President Reagan's counselor and his longtime California friend, has had nothing but trouble ever since the President nominated him for Attorney General.

Whether it was coincidence or not, no less than six people who had loaned money to Meese ended up with high-ranking political jobs. It was enough to cause Democrats on the Senate Judiciary Committee to smell blood.

The most telling blow came when a Washington newspaper found that a loan of \$15,000 to Meese's wife had gone unreported on Meese's financial disclosure statement, as required by law. Then it was disclosed that the friend who had loaned the money ended up with a White House job, and his wife also got a federal position.

Meese says he just forgot to report the loan and admitted it was a mistake. The President got mad and said the Democrats were trying to attack him through Meese. He said he would stick by Meese and refused to withdraw the nomination.

After the \$15,000 loan came to light, a special prosecutor was appointed to look into the matter, which means it will be an ongoing issue for the press for the next several months.

Should Reagan be re-elected, and he is extremely high in the polls, he may well be able to appoint four or five members of the Supreme Court, during his second term. Five of the present members of the court are over 75 and some of them are reported to be in ill health.

If the President could fashion a court of his own ideology, it could have a profound impact on the country and could reverse the nation's position on such issues as abortion, prayer in the schools and other social positions.

Democrats on the Judiciary Committee, feeling that if Meese is appointed Attorney General he would then be Reagan's choice for a Supreme Court appointment, have tried to make that impossible by their investigation into Meese's financial records.

Many observers think they have already accomplished that.



"North Carolina Living" Inspires Durham Artist

The painting on our cover this month is the latest watercolor by Kenny Glenn of Durham, who has spent most of his spare time during the past five years honing his style as a realist painter.

The self-taught artist, who had dabbled in painting off and on all his life, began concentrating on it in the late 1970s—trying, in his words, to "capture the human experience" as he saw it around him right here in North Carolina.

A Durham County native, Glenn had his first one-man show in 1979. Since then, he's displayed his original paintings—and the prints and stationery reproductions of those images—at craft shows across the state and in neighboring states.

"I probably get to a dozen shows a year, including the State Fair," he said.

In 1980, he released his first limited edition print of a painting—an image inspired by a photograph of an old farmer plowing with a mule in a tobacco field.

The photo was included in Pamela Barefoot's book, *Mules and Memories, a Photo Documentary of the Tobacco Farmer* and it had appeared in *Carolina Country*.

The photo, he said, "brought back memories of my grandpa" and that set the creative juices to

flowing. His watercolor version of the image—titled "Blood, Sweat and Bessie"—became the first in a series of works focusing on the theme of "North Carolina living."

Glenn's newest work, titled "Beach Bum," was inspired by a scene he saw while sunbathing at the beach last summer.

"I'd seen this cute pup wandering around, but then I glanced over and saw him asleep on the sand. I knew then I had to try to paint it."

He said a limited edition print of the painting will probably be available next year.

If you're interested in learning more about Glenn's paintings and prints, write to him at P.O. Box 3631, Durham, N.C. 27702.

"Bubble Boy" Story: A Compassionate Conspiracy

The media gets plenty of criticism these days—much of it, alas, very much deserved.

But an item in the news recently demonstrates that, on occasion, journalists can set aside their get-the-story-at-any-cost tactics.

When the saga of David, the 12-year-old "bubble boy," ended sadly with his death, part of that dramatic story was revealed for the first time: his full identity had never been reported by the media.

The boy was born with a rare disorder that left him without the normal immunities. He would have died soon after birth except for the extraordinary measures that were taken, allowing him to live in a bubble that protected him from infection.

This made him part of a major medical story, but the journalists covering it joined neighbors, doctors, nurses, family friends, teachers and priests in keeping David's identity—and that of his hometown—a secret.

The town is Shenandoah, Texas, a community of 500 residents.

Two journalists who were part of the great conspiracy explained that David's parents had asked that their names not be given out because they didn't want the boy to be regarded as a freak.

Mary Jane Schier, a medical writer with the *Houston Post*, said she had known the family's name from the beginning.

"The longer he stayed in the bubble, the more important it became to shield the family from curiosity seekers," she said.

Perhaps the incident will serve as an example to other journalists that they can do their jobs without sacrificing compassion.

It Says Here . . .

A high school principal from Lincoln, Kansas, recently wrote to Sen. Robert Dole about an incident at her school that she thought would amuse the Kansas senator.

"I thought perhaps you needed a laugh about the effect of some federal regulations and their interpretation through the eyes of a second grader," Tweed Wallis Ross wrote.

"In all school lunchrooms, it is now required that the following notice be prominently displayed:

This is an equal opportunity program. If you believe you have been discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap, write immediately to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

"I asked a second grader what that meant the other day. His explanation was: 'That means you can't have sex in the lunchroom if you are handicapped.' Need I say more?"

—Owen Bishop

Correction

Stephen S. Miller of Fayetteville has reported that he had not withdrawn from the race for the democratic nomination for Lieutenant Governor, as was reported in the April issue of *Carolina Country*.

Our report was based on erroneous information provided by the State Board of Elections.

We regret the error and we extend our apologies to Mr. Miller.

—Editor

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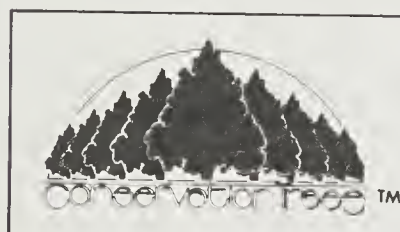
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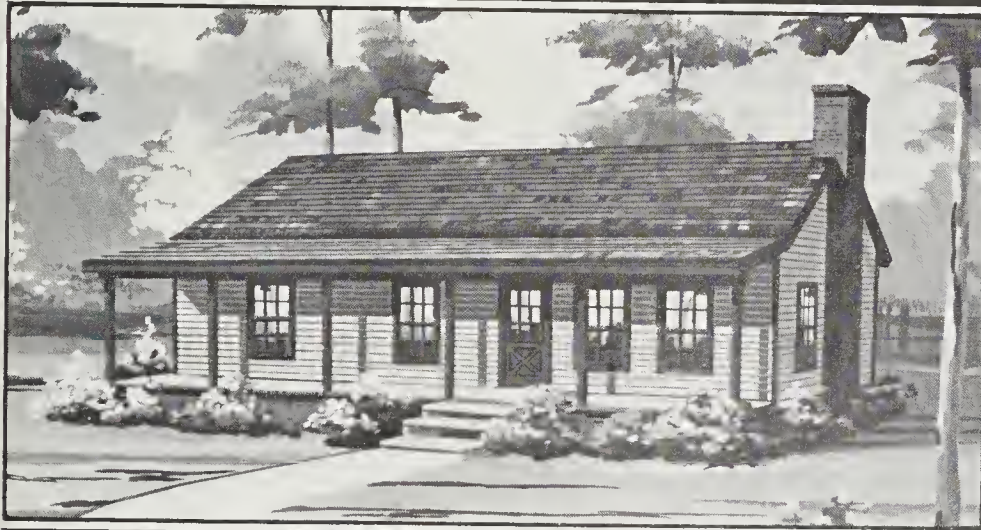
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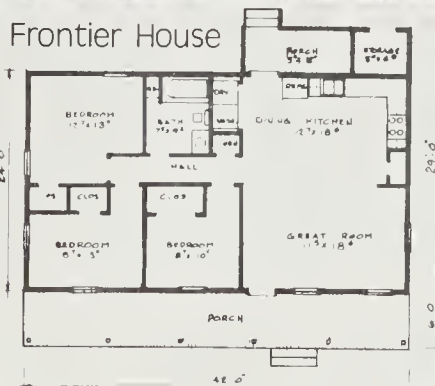
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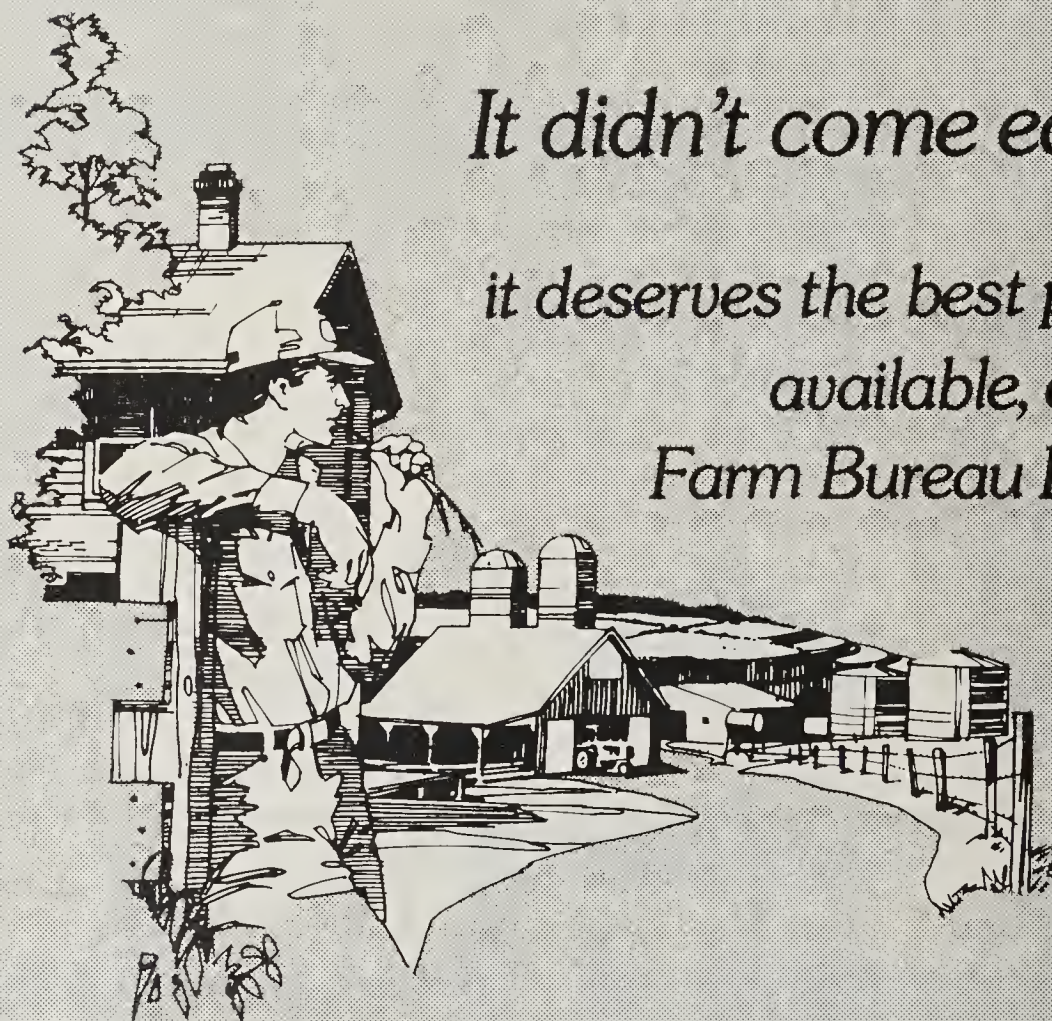
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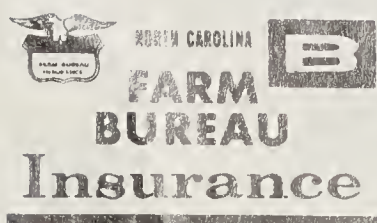
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